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*Sight Seeing at Gwalior*

ARCHÆOLOGICAL DEPT.,  
GWALIOR STATE.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY  
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## SIGHT-SEEING AT GWALIOR.

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Gwalior is on the Bombay-Delhi main line of the G. I. P. Railway, 76½ miles from Bombay and 195 from Delhi. All trains stop at Gwalior.

**Route.**

The present city of Gwalior consists of three different towns. (1) Old Gwalior, which dates from the ancient times and is situated round the northern end of the Fort hill, (2) the modern town on the south of the Fort which sprang up out of the military camp (*Lashkar*) of Maharaja Daulat Rao Scindia in and after 1800 A. D. and is hence called Lashkar, and (3) Morar, on the east of the Fort, which was formerly a British Cantonment and where the British Resident now lives. The three towns though about two miles apart from one another are mutually connected by good roads.

**Modern Gwalior.**



**Railway  
Station  
and  
Hotels etc.** The Gwalior Station of the G. I. P. Railway, is centrally situated, where tongas are available at all train times. Trains also run to Shivpuri, Bhind and Sheopor from the adjoining Gwalior Station of the Gwalior Light Railway. The Grand Hotel at Gwalior is situated close to the Railway Station. It is equipped with up-to-date sanitary fittings, electric lights and fans and has an excellent cuisine. It can provide accommodation to one hundred guests at a time. The Manager can make arrangements for sight-seeing on receipt of due notice. A more modest place of lodging and boarding for visitors is the Park Hotel which is nearly a quarter of a mile from the Railway Station. This hotel has got decent furnished rooms and is perhaps more suitable for those who live in the Indian style. A well maintained *Sarai* where rooms can be hired, and Sri.Krishna Dharmasala where free accommodation is provided are situated in front of the Park Hotel. Provision and confectioners' shops are at hand.

Gwalior is the Capital of the Premier State in Central India and one of the most important and progressive of Indian States.

**History of the present Ruling Family.** The present Maratha Ruling Family was founded by Raoji Rao Scindia, a distinguished commander under the Peshwa, about the middle of the 18th century. The family can boast of a line of brave soldiers among its scions who lost their lives on the field of battle. The power of the Scindia rose to its zenith during the later days of Mahadji, who was a great soldier and a man of great political sagacity. His extensive conquests and political influence in Northern India made him virtually independent of the Poona Government and his friendship was prized even by the East India Company. It was his successor Daulat Rao Scindia who shifted the capital from Ujjain to Gwalior. During Daulat Rao's reign Scindia's dominions were seriously crippled. Jayaji Rao, the grandfather of the present Maharaja, rendered valuable assistance to the British Government during the Sepoy Mutiny. His son Madhav Rao, the late Maharaja who is still fresh in our memory, was a Ruler of excep-

tional ability and incredible energy. He reformed every department of the State which made under him remarkable progress in every direction. The welfare of his subjects was the one thing dear to his heart. For them he lived and for them did he die. He was succeeded in 1925 by our present beloved Ruler, His Highness Maharaja JIYAJI RAO who is now nearly 18 years of age.

Gwalior ranks among the sights of India, winter being the best season for visitors. The population according to the Census of The City. 1931 is 1,26,949. An efficient Municipality looks after the roads and general sanitation of the city which is lighted with electricity and is served with an ample supply of pipe water. The Town Improvement Trust has done and is doing good work in opening up congested areas, widening roads and building up small parks in different parts of the town. A new system of scientific drainage is nearing completion. There is a large Hospital with up-to-date medical, surgical and pathological equipment, a Town

Hall, a College and a number of schools including a Technical School. In addition to the dispensaries where ordinary western medicine is administered by the State Medical Department, Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries are provided by the Municipality for indigenous treatment.

Among the annual festivals, those of special interest to visitors are the Dasehra, Muharram, Ganapati and the Birthday of the Maharaja.

**Annual Festivals.**

The sights of interest at Gwalior may be divided into the following groups and the individual places in each group may be visited conveniently in the order in which they are noticed below.

**Sights.**

The order has been arranged to suit the convenience of a visitor supposed to be putting up in one of the Hotels near the Railway Station. Visitors staying elsewhere will make the necessary changes in the arrangement with the help of their guides.



## SIGHTS AT GWALIOR.

### GROUP I.

1. Old Guest House (Gwalior Light Railway Office).
2. Tomb of Muhammad Ghaus.
3. Tomb of Tansen.
4. Jamah Masjid.
5. Fort with Archæological Museum.
6. Water Works.

### GROUP II.

7. King George Public Park with the statue of Maharani Sakhya Raja, and the State Museum.
8. H. H. the Maharaja's Palaces.
9. Memorial of Maharaja Mahadji Scindia.
10. Elgin Club.

11. Victoria College.
12. Jaya-Arogya Hospital.
13. Gwalior Engineering Works.
14. Pottery Works.
15. Kampu Kothi.
16. Imam Bada.
17. Jinsi Building and the Central Library.
18. Central Jail Industries Show Room.

GROUP III.

19. Sarafa Bazar.
20. Town Hall.
21. Alijah Darbar Press.
22. General Post Office.
23. Memorial of Maharaja Jayaji Rao Scindia.
24. Gorkhi or Old Palace.

25. Victoria Memorial Market.
26. Chhatris or Cenotaphs of the Scindia Family.
27. Memorial of Maharani Lakshmibai of Jhansi.
28. Central Poly-Technic Institute and Show Room.
29. Industrial Show Room.

#### GROUP IV.

30. Race Course and Mela ground.
- \*31. Agricultural Engineering Show Room and Model Farm.
32. Jayaji Rao Cotton Mills.
33. Leather Factory.
34. The Morar River Dam.

**Old Guest House.** The Old Guest House is a pretty building situated on the road to the Fort about a quarter of a mile from the Railway Station. At one time it was used as a Guest House. Now the Offices of the Gwalior Light Railway are accommodated in the building.



The next monument of interest on the way to the Fort is the Tomb of Muhammad Ghaus, a well-known Muhammadan saint and *guru* of Akbar. It is a fine specimen of a tomb in the Early Mughal style of architecture crowned with an impressive dome and surrounded with beautiful *Jali* work in stone which is a living art at Gwalior even to this day.

Close by is the Tomb of Tansen, one of the nine gems of Akbar's court and the greatest musician India has ever produced. He was a native of Gwalior State and has found his last resting place near the place of his birth. There is a tamarind tree near the tomb, the leaves of which are chewed by singers with the belief that they impart a sweet voice.

Jamah Masjid is a fair specimen of Mosque of late Mughal period, standing just outside the Gwalior Gate of the Fort.

The Fort is by far the most pre-eminent sight of Gwalior. The great fortress is one of the most famous in India. Truly has a Muhammadan historian described it as a 'pearl in the necklace of the castles of the Hind.' The history of the Fort goes back to the 5th century A. D. and perhaps to still earlier times. It has witnessed the varying fortunes of the Guptas, the Huns, the Kachhwahas, the Pratiharas, the Tomaras, the Mughals, the English and the Marathas who have left their landmarks in the various monuments still scrupulously and carefully preserved on the hill. The arts of peace rather than war are now pursued within its precincts and the ramparts that long withstood the onslaught of many a besieger now enclose the Scindia Public School.

The fortress stands on an isolated flat-topped hill about 300 feet high,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles long north to south and 600 to 2,800 feet wide east to west. There are now two approach roads to climb the rock (although formerly there were some more), one through the Gwalior Gate on the east and the other through the Urwahi Gate on the west. The former road is very steep. The

other road has a gentler gradient and is more convenient for pedestrians. Powerful cars can climb it up. Cars up to the foot of the hill and elephants for ascending and descending the rock are the usual popular conveyances used by high class visitors. Elephants can be hired from the State Stables. Entering from the east, crossing the first two gates—the Gwalior Gate and the Hindola Gate and turning to the right, the visitor is face to face with the entrance of the Gujar Mahal, a handsome old palace built by Raja Mansingh about the end of the 15th century, for his favourite Queen named Mriganayana (*deer-eyed*) who was a Gujar by caste. Hence the name Gujar Mahal.

This building is now used for the Archaeological Museum where a large collection of interesting old carvings, images, inscriptions, coins, paintings and various other antiquities dating from the 3rd century B. C. down to the 18th century A. D. are preserved and systematically arranged for inspection and study. Two booklets—*A Guide to the Archaeological Museum at Gwalior* (price

**Gujar Mahal.  
and  
Archaeological  
Museum.**

As. 4 ) and *Gwalior Fort Album* ( price Rs. 1.8 )—which can be purchased at the Museum will be found useful in visiting the Museum and the Fort. Visitors who would see the Fort on elephants will find it convenient to mount only after seeing this Museum. At the northern end of the enclosure in which the Gujar Mahal stands is a European Cemetery where British soldiers who died on the Fort during the British occupation between 1858 and 1886 are buried.

Half way up the ascending road to the Fort one passes by a small shrine the Chaturbhuj Temple hewn out of living rock in the year 875 A. D. Further up there are several rock-cut niches sheltering Hindu and Jaina images now mostly obliterated and two reservoirs of water also excavated in the hill side. Presently the visitor enters the uppermost gate of the Fort, the Elephant Gate so-called from a life size stone figure of elephant which once stood here. The gate forms part of the eastern facade of Raja Mansingh's Palace and its manly and graceful design is worthy of the noble edifice to which it belongs.



We now come to the famous Palace of Raja Mansingh (1486-1516 A. D.) who is remembered especially as a great patron of architecture and music. The edifice is the most remarkable and interesting example of a Hindu palace of an early age in India. The vast eastern face of the palace which measures 300 feet in length and about 80 feet in height is relieved at regular intervals by six round towers of a singularly pleasing design and crowned with domed cupolas. The wall is inlaid with enamelled tiles blue, green and yellow forming bands of mosaic and conventional figures of men, ducks, elephants, crocodiles, tigers and plantain trees giving the wall an unsurpassed charm and elegance. The interior of the building consists of two open courtyards surrounded by suites of rooms roofed over with ceilings of varied designs, and possessing rich and beautiful decoration in the form of perforated screens, pendants, cornices, mouldings, geometrical and floral patterns turned into mosaic with the use of coloured enamel tiles. For this tile decoration the palace is also known as Sis Mahal or mirror palace. Under the courtyards are two under-ground storeys which, it is said, were used during the Moghal rule for keeping State prisoners.

**Sas-Bahu  
Temples.** The twin temples known as Sas-Bahu occupy a picturesque position on a salient point in the eastern verge of the fort rock, nearly a quarter of a mile to the south of Mansingh's Palace. The name Sas-Bahu meaning 'Mother-in-law and Daughter-in-law' is a popular name generally given to two similar objects of unequal size standing side by side. From a Sanskrit inscription on the porch of the larger temple it is known that the temple was completed in 1093 A. D. during the reign of Mahipala, a Kachhawaha Rajput prince of Gwalior. The temples were sacred to Vishnu, one of the three gods of the Hindu Trinity. The buildings though partially ruined are still interesting as specimens of the ornate style of mediæval temple architecture in Northern India. The doorways, ceilings and huge massive pillars in the interior of the large temple with their elaborate carving decoration are particularly impressive. The open pavement near the smaller temple commands a fine view of the plains below.

Another old temple known as Teli-ka-Mandir is the loftiest of all the existing buildings on the fort, being over 100 feet in height.

**Telika  
Mandir.**

It is a 9th century Vishnu temple peculiar in plan and design. The form of its *sikhara* or spire is Dravidian, common in Southern India, while all the decorative details are Indo-Aryan characteristic of Northern India. It is thus an interesting example of temple architecture where both the Northern and Southern styles meet. The temple possesses some bold and vigorous arabesque work in the horizontal band of decoration on its basement.

The old barracks built during the British occupation are at present used mostly as school rooms and residential quarters for the boys and teachers of the Scindia Public School conducted on the lines of a public school in England, modified to suit local conditions.

**Scindia Public  
School.**



In the western part of the hill, on the way from Teli-ka-Mandir to the  
**Suraj Kund.** Urwahi Gate by which the visitor is now to leave the Fort,  
he passes a square tank known as Suraj Kund with the  
miraculous waters of which, according to a local tradition, king Surajpal, the  
[mythical] founder of the Fort, was cured of leprosy.

**Jaina Rock  
Sculptures** On both sides of the slope of the Urwahi road there are a number of  
images of Jaina *Tirthankaras*, large and small, standing or  
seated, sheltered in small caves or niches. Such figures are  
carved all over the sides of the fort rock wherever suitable  
place was found for excavation. The rock sculptures of Gwalior are unique  
in Northern India for their number as well as for their gigantic size, the  
largest of the sculptures, a standing image on the left of the visitor as he  
descends along the Urwahi road half way down the slope, being as tall as 57  
feet. At the Urwahi Gate one bids good-by to the Fort.

On a hill known as the Rakkhas-ka-Pahad situated about two miles to the north-west of the Fort is a large masonry tank, the **Water Works.** reservoir of water, with a filtering and pumping station, which supplies pipe water to the whole city.

## GROUP II.

King George Public Park was laid out by the late Madhav Maharaj in a portion of his palace grounds which he set apart for the use of the public and was opened by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales during his visit to Gwalior in February 1922. **The Park.** The Park has a menagerie of birds, and beasts. There are good roads, green lawns and quiet retreats. The State Museum with its varied exhibits and the Ladies' Club are also there. But the special feature of the Park is that it includes within its premises a Hindu Temple, a Muhammadan Mosque, a Sikh *Gurudwara* and a Theosophical Lodge—all built and maintained chiefly at State cost. Here is an example of the catholicity of a Hindu

prince—a lesson for all times, all creeds, and for all governing powers. In the Park too amidst attractive surroundings is a marble statue set in a marble canopy, of the present Maharaja's grandmother, Maharani Sakhya Raja, the popular Jeeja Maharaj.

The Jaivilas Palace, the present residence of the Ruling Family, and the Motimahal Palace now converted into the Secretariat Offices  
Jaivilas. were both built during the reign of Maharaja Jayaji Rao, the grandfather of the present Maharaja, and both built and designed by the late Sir Michael Filose. The Jaivilas Palace is built in the famous Italian Palazzo style. The grand Darbar Hall, one of the finest saloons in the world, is painted with gold leaf, hung with wonderful chandeliers and decorated with enormous mirrors. The way up to the Hall is on a grand crystal staircase. To see the palace permission has to be obtained from the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja.

Besides the Offices of the different Departments of the State, the  
**Motimahal.** Motimahal contains an Assembly Hall, a Council Chamber  
and a Secretariat Library. Some rooms are inlaid  
with mosaic work of coloured glass and decorated with mural paintings  
showing scenes from Hindu mythology, the *Ragas* and *Raginis* and also  
the scenes of the ceremonial Darbars, processions and shikars of the late  
Maharaja Jayaji Rao.

To the south of the palace and beyond its compound is the Elgin Club  
**Elgin Club.** with a splendid club house standing on pretty grounds.  
There are lawn tennis courts, a billiard room, a swimming  
tank and all other up-to-date equipments of a first class club.

In front of the Elgin Club at the junction of four roads stands the  
memorial of the famous Mahadji Scindia, the most  
**Mahadji Scindia's Statue.** distinguished of the ancestors of the Maharaja. A bronze  
statue is set on a marble pedestal in the centre of



a circular platform edged with a stone railing in the style of an ancient Buddhist *stupa*, grown with turf and decorated with plots of flower plants.

Nearby are the Gwalior Young Men's Club, the Victoria College with a beautiful stone building and the Jaya-Arogya Hospital with full up-to-date equipment for medicine and surgery including X-rays installation, an able staff of doctors and nurses and well furnished wards for in-door patients. Beyond these are the Pottery Works and the Gwalior Engineering Works. The Potteries manufacture tea sets, stationery articles, toys, hospital requisites and wall and floor tiles, etc. The articles turned out are of superior quality and there is a brisk demand for them chiefly from outside the State. The Engineering Works are fitted with efficient machinery worked by electricity.

A little further west are the Kampoo Kothi, an old residential palace, and the new Imam Bada where the Maharaja's *Tasia* is seated during the Muharram festival.

The Jinsi Building which houses the upper classes of the High School, the science classes of the Victoria College, and the Central Library is a massive impressive building centrally situated and hence suitable for public lectures and similar functions for which it contains a spacious hall.

### GROUP III.

A Show Room where carpets, durries, rough cloth, article of wooden furniture, wicker work, and other products manufactured in the Central Jail are on view for sale is maintained on the Indarganj Road, the largest thoroughfare in the City.

The street leading from the Jinsi to the Jayaji Chowk passes through what is known as the Sarafa Bazar or jewellers' market. It is thickly lined with houses rising to four or five storeys with balconies, screens, pillars and brackets carved in various graceful and

fantastic designs illustrating Gwalior's living fame in the stone cutters' art. The houses are mostly inhabited by merchants, bankers and shop-keepers, the front rooms being occupied with shops of all kinds.

The Jayaji Chowk is the biggest square in the heart of the city of Laskhar taking its name from a bronze statue of Maharaja Jayaji Rao which stands in the centre on a high pedestal protected under a pointed spire. This square is the busiest part of the city surrounded as it is with the Town Hall or Theatre, the Alijah Darbar Electric Press, the Victoria Memorial Market, the Gorkhi, the General Post Office, the High Court and the Bank Buildings. All this goes to make an imposing city picture seen at its best by the electric light in the evenings.

Another object of interest at Gwalior which a visitor should make a point to see is the group of *Chhatris* or cenotaphs of the dead ancestors of



**Ruling Family.** The mausoleum of Maharaja Jayaji Rao is the most pretentious in the group and important for its architectural beauty.

**Memorial of the Rani of Jhansi.** On the Station Road, a little way on the west of the Park Hotel stands the modest memorial of the famous Queen Lakshmi-bai of Jhansi who was acknowledged even by her enemies as the most capable leader on the side of the rebels in the Mutiny of 1857-58 and who fell bravely fighting, against odds, her last battle at Gwalior. The platform marks the site where her body was cremated in a stack of hay by a handful of devoted followers who had been still left with her.

**Poly-Technic Institute.** The Central Poly-Technic Institute is housed in a building near the Park Hotel, on the Station Road. The Institute has the provision for instruction both theoretical and practical in various small arts and crafts such as (1) soap making,

(2) electro-plating, (3) spinning and weaving, (4) dyeing, (5) carpentry, (6) smithy, (7) modelling, (8) fitting, and (9) turning. The Institute also maintains a show room on the premises of the school, where the products turned out by its pupils are exhibited and sold.

The last thing to be seen in this group is the Industrial Museum or Show Room, where one can see exhibited for inspection or sale the industrial products from the various parts of the State, *e. g.*, the leather goods and pottery articles of Gwalior, the lacquer work and toys of Sheopur the gold muslins of Chanderi and so on.

#### GROUP IV.

The places and institutions of interest, situated at Morar or on the way to Morar are treated under this group.

The Race Course which stands on the Main Road connecting Lashkar and Morar is one of the best in India. The Enclosure and Stands afford excellent accommodation for visitors. Meetings used to be held here biannually under the Western India Turf Club rules. The Race programmes have been suspended in recent times and the premises are now used by the Gwalior Sports Association for holding All-India cricket, hockey, football and other matches and tournaments. The Association also arranges yearly competitions in sports and games of all sorts including Indian games, during the Holi festivals which attract a majority of the student world of the city. A little further are the Mela grounds with permanent shop buildings where a large Fair including an Agricultural Exhibition and a Baby Week Show is held annually for 20 days in December-January.

Opposite the Mela grounds are the Agricultural Engineering Show Room, Laboratory and Model Farm.

The Jiyaji Rao Cotton Mills occupy a large area on the west of the G. I. P. Railway line near the Morar Station. It is a spinning and weaving Mill and manufactures cloth of all description. The concern is managed by the Birla Brothers of Calcutta. Sanitary quarters for a large number of mill hands are built on the premises of the Mills and particular attention is paid to the general welfare of the employees. The Birlas are well-known for their charities. They built a Maternity Home for the benefit of the public in general and the mill servants in particular. The opening of the Mills has had a very salutary effect on reviving and repopulating the old town of Gwalior which is the nearest inhabited area.

Jiyaji Rao  
Cotton Mills.

The Gwalior Leather Factory which also includes Tanneries and Tent Manufacture is situated on the Mall Road at Morar. The factory is equipped with up-to-date machinery driven by power. It turns out all kinds of high class leather goods such as boots, shoes, harness, suit cases, hand

Gwalior  
Leather  
Factory.



bags, etc. During the Great War the Factory executed large contracts for the Government of India.

The Morar river is bunded at about a mile to the north of Morar. On the banks of the river below the weir is a small garden.  
**Morar Dam.** The spot is a popular resort for the evening. The view at sun-set is enjoyable.

Other places which are at some distance from Gwalior but which are worth a visit, time permitting, are the Cement Factory at  
**Miscellaneous.** Banmor 12 miles north of Gwalior, the Tigra Lake a vast expanse of water, also 12 miles from Gwalior but to the west of it, the Tekanpur Tank some 20 miles south of Gwalior and last but not least Shivpuri, the summer capital of the State 73 miles to the south-west of Gwalior situated in the midst of very picturesque and enchanting woodland scenery.





Gujari Mahal.

गुजरी महल.





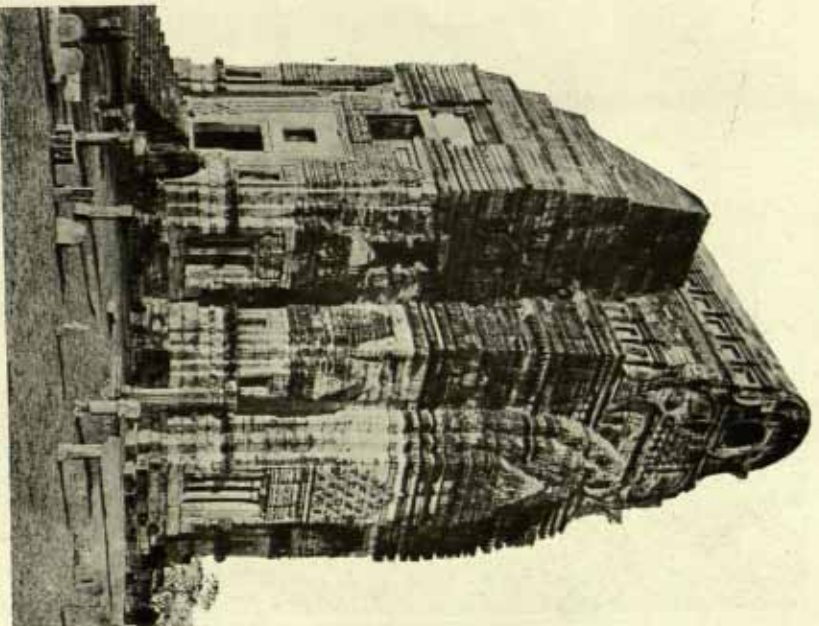
Tomb of Muhammad Ghaus.

दरगाह मुहम्मद ग़ौस.

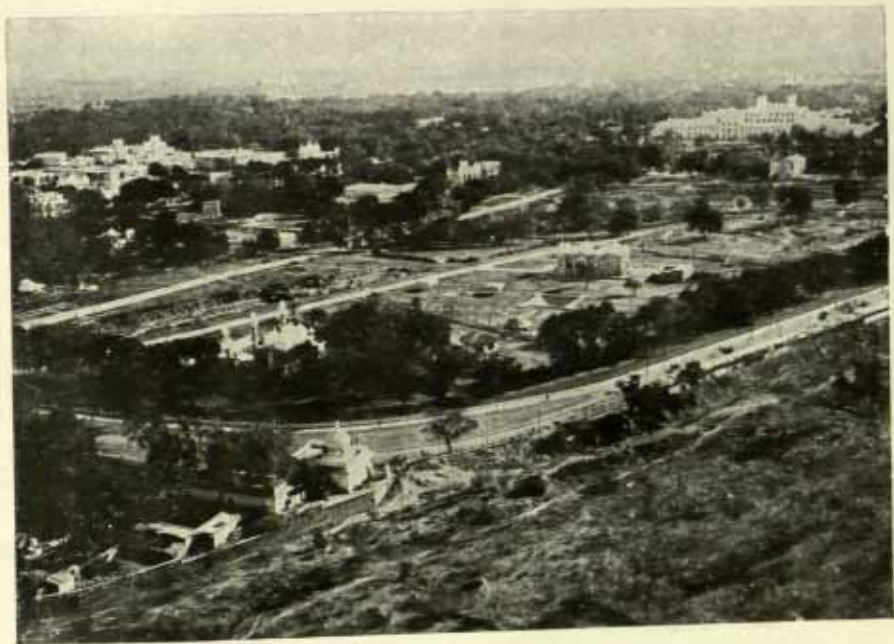


Sas Bahu Temple (Larger).

सास बहू मंदिर (बड़ा).

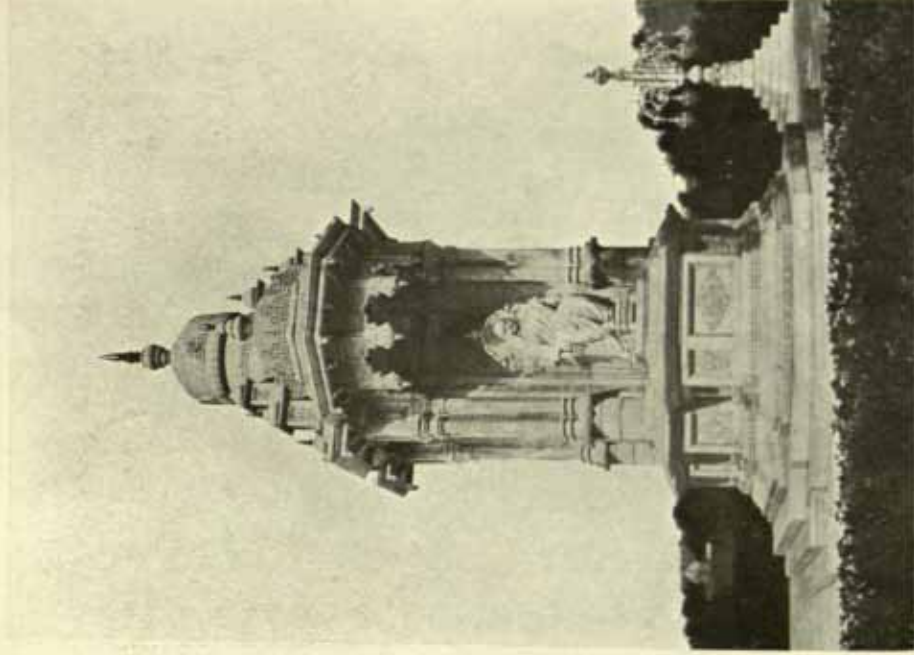


Teli-ka Mandir.  
तेली का मंदिर.



King George Public Park.  
किंग जॉर्ज पब्लिक पार्क.





Statue of Maharani Sakhya Raja Scindia.  
महाराणी सख्या राजा सिंधिया का पुतला.



Statue of Maharaja Mahadji Scindia.  
महाराजा महादजी सिंधिया का पुतळा.



Jinsi Building.  
जिन्सी बिल्डिंग.



Jayarogya Hospital.

जयारोग्य हॉस्पिटल.



Victoria College.  
विक्टोरिया कॉलेज.





Jayaji Rao Memorial with Town Hall.  
जयाजीराव-स्मारक व टाऊन हॉल.

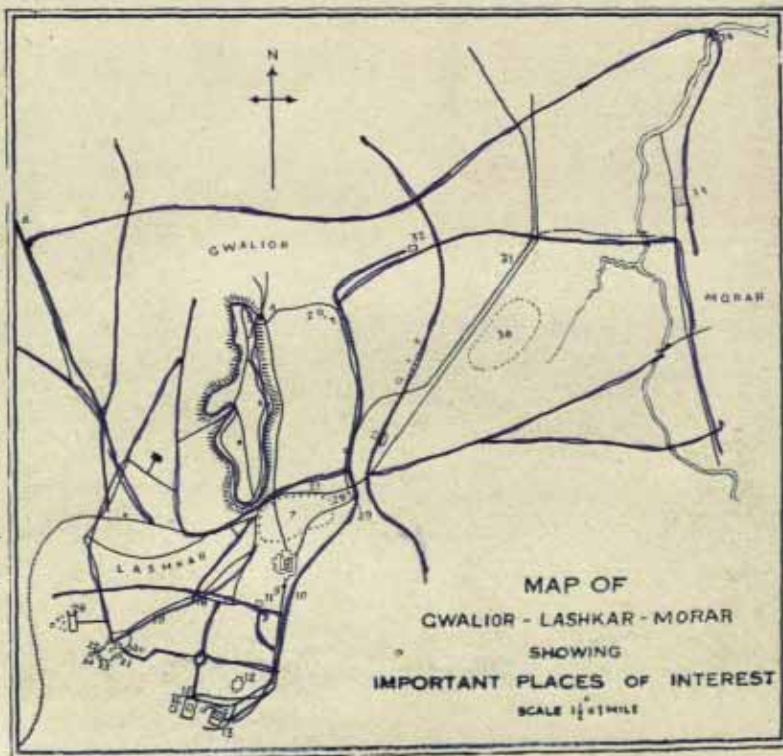


Chhatra of Maharaja Jayaji Rao Scindia.

महाराजा जयजीराव सिंधिया की छत्री.

## SIGHTS AT GWALIOR.

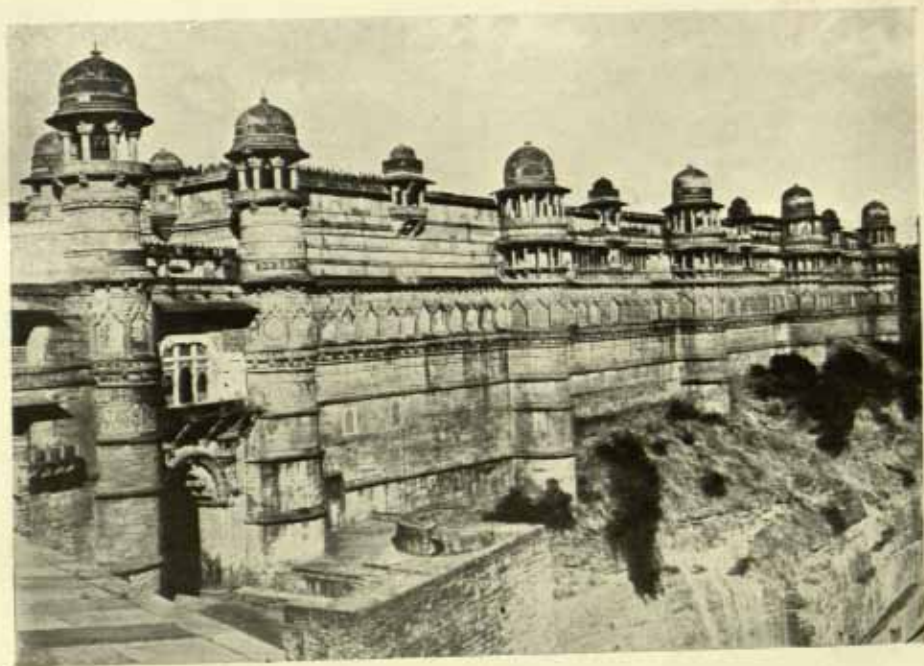
1. Old Guest House.
2. Tomb of Muhammad Ghaus.
3. Tomb of Tansen.
4. Jama Masjid.
5. Fort with Archaeological Museum.
6. Water Works.
7. King George Public Park.
8. Maharaja's Palaces.
9. Memorial of Mahadji Maharaj.
10. Elgin Club.
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15. Kampu Kothi.
16. Imam Bada.
17. Jinsi Building.



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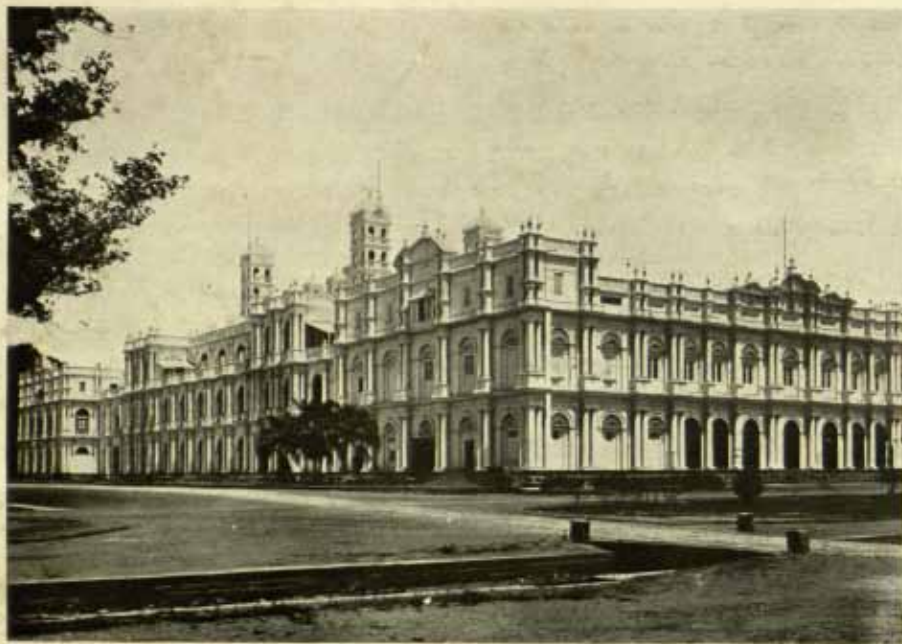
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31. Agriculture Model Farm.
32. Jayaji Rao Cotton Mills.
33. Leather Factory.
34. The Morar River Dam.





Man Mandir, East face.  
मानमंदिर, पूर्वीय दृश्य.





Jaivilas Palace.

जयविलास महल.

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